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Approved By:

Robin Gray

Prepared By:

Staff

Report Highlights:

This report contains summaries of relevant decisions and documents from the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) meetings published between February 28 and April 28, 2017 that impact the EAEU food and agriculture policy. Key documents included herein are "Common Quarantine and Phytosanitary Requirements for Regulated Products and Quarantine Items on the Customs Border and Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union" and technical regulations "On the Safety of Fish and Fish Products."

General Information:

This report contains summaries of relevant decisions and documents from the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) meetings published between February 28 and April 28, 2017 that impact EAEU food and agriculture policy. Key documents included herein are decision on "Common Quarantine and Phytosanitary Requirements for Regulated Products and Quarantine Items on the Customs Border and Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union," that come into force July 1, 2017, and the decision on technical regulations "On Safety of Fish and Fish Products," that come into force September 1, 2017.

The documents below are hyperlinked via automated translation services for readers seeking further details. Select "refresh" on your browser if the page does not translate to the end.

SPS/TBT MEASURES PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Publication Date: March 1, 2017

1. **Technical Regulations:** Draft decision "On Amendment No. 2 to the Technical Regulation of the Customs Union 'On Safety of Milk and Dairy Products'" – published in <u>Russian</u>. For English, please see GAIN report RS1715 Draft Amendments on TR on Dairy Notified to WTO.

Summary: On March 1, 2017, the Russian Federation notified this draft to the World Trade Organization (WTO) via <u>G/TBT/N/RUS/82</u> and <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/138</u>. The amendments specify definition and labeling requirements for milk products with and without addition of substitute of milk fat. The public comment period for the draft will close on May 10, 2017. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to send their comments to the EEC address dept_techregulation@eurasiancommission.org.

Additionally, Kazakhstan notified the same draft measure via <u>G/TBT/N/KAZ/16</u> on March 30, 2017. The public comment period for this notification will close May 29, 2017. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and concerns with the National Institute of Standards and Technology at <u>usatbtep@nist.gov</u> until May 15, 2017.

Publication Date: March 27, 2017

2. **Phytosanitary Measures:** Draft decision "On Amendments to the Common Quarantine Phytosanitary Requirements of the Eurasian Economic Union" – original in <u>Russian</u>. For English, see <u>GAIN RS1722 WTO Notifications on EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements</u>.

Summary: On April 3, 2017, the Russian Federation notified this draft to the WTO via G/SPS/N/RUS/140. The draft amendments introduce new pests into the requirements in accordance with the draft amendments to the "Common List of Plant Quarantine Objects" of the EAEU (See GAIN RS1721 for details). The comment period for the amendments ends June 2, 2017. For

potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send comments to the USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov) by May 19, 2017.

3. **Phytosanitary Measures:** Draft decision "On amendments to The Common List of Plant Quarantine Objects of the Eurasian Economic Union" – in <u>Russian</u>.

Summary: On April 3, 2017, the Russian Federation notified this draft to the WTO via <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/140</u>. For details and English, see <u>GAIN RS1721 WTO Notifications on the EAEU</u> Common List of Pests.

The draft amendments put additional quarantine objects (pests) into the Common List from the National Lists of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. The document also lists the pests in alphabetical order.

The comment period for the amendments ends June 2, 2017. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, interested parties are encouraged to send their comments and concerns to the USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov) by May 19, 2017.

Publication Date: April 18, 2017

4. **Veterinary Measures:** Draft amendments to "The Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance) of the Eurasian Economic Union" approved by the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) decision No.317 of June 2010 – original in Russian. For English, see GAIN report RS1728 WTO Notified on Draft Amendments to Vet Requirements.

Summary: On April 24, 2017 the Republic of Kazakhstan notified the WTO via G/SPS/N/KAZ/9 of draft amendments to "The Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance) of the Eurasian Economic Union." The draft amendments stipulate procedures for negotiation and approval of import veterinary certificates differing from the common veterinary certificates for controlled goods, imported into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) from third countries. The comment period for the amendments ends June 23, 2017. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to send their comments to the EEC address kulagina@eecommission.org. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments to the USDA's enquiry point us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov by June 9, 2017.

5. **Veterinary Measures:** Draft amendments to "The Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance) of the Eurasian Economic Union" approved by the EEC decision No.317 of June 2010 – original in <u>Russian</u>.

Summary: On April 18, 2017, the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) published on its website draft amendments to "The Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Surveillance) of the Eurasian Economic Union." The draft amendments stipulate that enterprises engaged in production and (or) storage of medicines for animals are not subject to inclusion in the register of organizations and individuals engaged in production, processing and (or) storage of controlled goods, transported from territory of one

member state to territory of another member state of the EAEU. The comment period for the amendments ends June 16, 2017.

As of the date of publication of this report, FAS/Moscow does not believe this measure has been notified to the World Trade Organization. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments to the USDA's enquiry point <u>us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov</u> by June 2, 2017.

Publication Date: April 21, 2017

6. **Sanitary Measures:** Draft decision "The Common Sanitary and Epidemiological and Hygienic Requirements for Products Subject to Sanitary and Epidemiological Control (surveillance)" - original in <u>Russian</u>.

Summary: On April 21, 2017 Russia notified the WTO via <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/141</u> of the draft decision on "The Common Sanitary and Epidemiological and Hygienic Requirements for Products Subject to Sanitary and Epidemiological Control (surveillance)." The draft decision excludes "1-Phenylpropan-2-one" from the "List of aroma and flavoring chemical substances, approved for use in the production of the food flavorings," contained in the Annex 19 of the Part 22 of "Safety requirements for food additives and flavorings" of the Chapter II of "The Common Sanitary and Epidemiological and Hygienic Requirements for Products Subject to Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (control)."

The comment period for the amendments ends June 20, 2017. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to send their comments to the EEC address kulagina@eecommission.org. For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments to the USDA's enquiry point us.spsenquirypoint@fas.usda.gov by June 6, 2017.

Additionally, Kazakhstan notified the same draft measure via G/SPS/N/KAZ/10 on April 24, 2017.

MEETING OF THE SUPREME EURASIAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL AT THE HEADS OF STATE LEVEL April 14, 2017

Publication Date: April 17, 2017

EEC Supreme Council Decision No.9 "On Amendments to the Rules of Procedures of Eurasian Economic Commission" - original in Russian.

Summary: The decision authorized additional powers to the Eurasian Economic Commission for approving rules of origin for the goods exported from customs territory of the EAEU, for establishing rules for international trade in free economic zones on the territory of the EAEU and some others.

Update on approval of the <u>Customs Code of the EAEU</u> during EEC Supreme Council at the Heads of State level in St. Petersburg on December 26, 2016.

According to the EEC <u>press release</u> of April 13, 2017, all five member states of the EAEU signed the Treaty approving the Unified Customs Code of December 2016. The document was passed for ratification by parliaments of the member states - in <u>Russian</u>.

Summary: The new Customs Code of the EAEU should substitute current Customs Code of the Customs Union approved in 2010 (See <u>RS1036</u> for details).

MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COUNCIL October 18, 2016

Publication Date: March 20, 2017

EEC Council Decision No. 162 "On Technical Regulations on Safety of Fish and Fish Products" – original in Russian.

Summary: As a draft, decision was notified to the WTO via <u>G/TBT/N/RUS/15</u> in February 2013. The new regulations should substitute national regulations of the member states of the EAEU. The new technical regulations "On Safety of Fish and Fish Products" came into force September 1, 2017.

EEC Council Decision No. 163 "On the Methodology of Calculating the Level of Measures of State Support of Agriculture that have Distorting Effect on Mutual Trade of the Member States of the EAEU in Agricultural Products, and Forms of Notification on State Support for Agriculture" – original in Russian.

Summary: New methodology introduces common terms and unifies approach to agriculture support in the member states of the EAEU. All measures for agriculture support in the EAEU member states should be listed and reported according to approved unified forms. The decision comes into force April 20, 2017.

MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COUNCIL November 30, 2016

Publication Date: March 6, 2017

EEC Council Decision No.157 "On Approval of the Common Quarantine and Phytosanitary Requirements for Regulated Products and Quarantine Items on the Customs Border and Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union" – original in Russian.

Summary: A draft, decision was notified to the WTO via <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/102</u> in September 2015. For details and translation see <u>GAIN RS1566 Draft EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements Notified to WTO</u> and <u>GAIN RS1722 WTO Notifications on EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements.</u> The new regulation establishes phytosanitary requirements for import and movement of controlled goods on the territory of the EAEU, labeling requirements for wood packaging materials, and for product disinfection. The decision comes into force July 1, 2017.

EEC Council Decision No.158 "On Approval of the Common List of Quarantine Items of the Eurasian Economic Union" - original in Russian.

Summary: On March 29, 2017, Russia notified to the WTO via <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/139</u> that "The Common List of Plant Quarantine Objects (pests) of the Eurasian Economic Union" was approved. The List replaces the national lists of quarantine objects (pests) of the individual Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) member states. For details and translation see <u>GAIN</u> <u>RS1721 WTO Notifications on the EAEU Common List of Pests</u>. The List comes into force July 1, 2017.

EEC Council Decision No.159 "On Approval of the Common Rules and Standards to Ensure Plant Quarantine Control on the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union" – original in Russian.

Summary: A draft, decision was notified to the WTO via <u>G/SPS/N/RUS/111</u> in October 2015. For details and translation see <u>GAIN RS1723 WTO Notifications on EAEU Common Phytosanitary Rules</u>. The document unifies member states' requirements for authorized plant quarantine protection bodies, their main goals, and measures for plant quarantine phytosanitary control. It describes common rules for the examination of regulated products and articles, rules for phytosanitary certification and others. The Rules come into force July 1, 2017.

MEETING OF THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION COUNCIL March 17, 2017

Publication Date: March 30, 2017

EEC Council Decision No.10 "On Amendments to the Decision of the Council of the Customs Union No.318 of June 18, 2010" - original in Russian.

Summary: The document puts amendments to the decision of the Council of the Customs Union "On Provision of Plant Quarantine in the Customs Union" approved in June 2010 in line with "Common Quarantine and Phytosanitary Requirements for Regulated Products and Quarantine Items on the Customs Border and Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union" approved on November 30, 2016. For details see RS1722 WTO Notifications on EAEU Phytosanitary Requirements. The decision comes into force July 1, 2017.